



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.



ANNUAL REPORT ON

The Health of The

STROOD RURAL DISTRICT
During the Year

1946

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE STROOD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL for the year 1946.

Corrigendum.

Introductory letter - Paragraph 3 "The birth rate shows an increase of 3.0 per 1,000 from 1945, the figure for 1946 being 387 births, giving a birth rate of 21.7 per 1,000."

Page 1 - VITAL STATISTICS.		
	1946	1945
territ reder delen derbit delen delen reder territ seden delen del		
Birth rate	21.7	17.7

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health

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THE RURAL DISTRICT OF STROOD, KENT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the Strood Rural District Council.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report upon the health of the District for the year 1946.

The population shows a substantial increase, the Registrar General's estimate for the middle of 1946 being 17,830, an increase of 1,330 over the figure for the previous year.

The birthrate shows a decrease of 1.6 per 1,000 from 1945, the figure for 1946 being 387 births, giving a birthrate of 16.09 per 1,000.

The number of deaths during the year was 214, giving a death rate of 12.0 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 11.7 per 1,000 in 1945.

Infantile mortality has shown a further decline, the Infantile Mortality rate for 1946 being 23.25 against 34.13 for 1945. No infants under two years of age have died from Diarrhoea and Enteritis during the year.

The general health of the district throughout the year has been remarkably good. There have been no unusual circumstances giving rise to any particular form of invalidity.

As in 1945, an acute housing shortage still prevails throughout the Rural District but it is pleasing to note that 36 houses have been erected by the Council during 1946 and substantial progress made towards the completion of further houses during 1947. I must comment however, upon the rapidly deteriorating condition of the older type houses, prevalent in the more rural parts of the district. Through lack of materials and labour to efficiently effect repair, these houses are rapidly falling into decay and must present a serious problem unless substantial works of repair and reconditioning are carried out in the near future. Seven years of neglected maintenance repair is rapidly turning reasonably constructed houses into conditions analogous with slum properties and unless higher authorities take note of the conditions prevailing and give them equal priority in the issue of materials and provision of labour, demolition and rehousing programmes will have to be embarked upon before the Council have had enough time to provide houses for those families who have no separate home of their own.

I would once again express my thanks to the Council for their continued interest and support, to my colleagues in other departments and especially to the Staff of the Health Department for their support and devotion to duty.

Your obedient Servant,

M. F. McDONNELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA

VITAL STATISTICS.

		1946	1945
Area of District Estimated resident population Number of inhabitated houses	• •	48,811 acres 17,830	48,811 acres 16,500
(according to Rate Book) Rateable value ,. Sum represented by a Penny Rate	• •	5,581 £121,323 £500	5,207 £117.523 £489
Births	•••	387 16.09 214	293 17.7 194
Death rate	• •	12.00 23.25 per 1,000 births	11.7 34.13 per 1,000 births
zymotic Death Rate (7 principal zymotics.) All forms of Tuberculosis	• •	0.00 .16	• 24 •60

BIRTHS

Of the total live births registered, 191 were male and 196 females. There were 23 illegitimate births, 6 males and 17 females.

DTATHS.

The total number of deaths registered numbered 214, comprising 112 males and 102 females. This figure is arrived at after deducting deaths of non-residents who died chiefly in camps and institutions and adding those residents dying outside the district.

Zymotic Death Rate. The seven principal zymotic diseases as defined by the Registrar General are: - Smallpox, Measlos, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (i.e. typhus, enteric fever and simple continued fever) and diarrhoea. Of these diseases, enteric fever mortality is perhaps the best best of sanitary conditions, caused as it is by specific contamination of a il and water, by excreta, whilst diarrhoea with its special incidence to young children, is notably associated with insanitary surroundings.

It is pleasing to note that no Zymotic Disease deaths were registered during the year.

Infant Mortality Rate. There were nine deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality figure of 23.25 per 1,000 births, a decrease of 10.8 below the 1945 figure. This steadily decreasing figure bears tribute to the advantages taken by expectant and nursing mothers of the Ante and post natal and welfare clinics in the district, and to the availability of cheap milk and other baby foods now within easy reach of the pockets of the low wage earning classes.

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CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE STROOD RUPAL DISTRICT.

1946.

	М	F
ALL CAUSES	112	102
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers 2. Cerebro-spinal fever 3. Scarlet Fever 4. Whooping Cough 5. Diphtheria 6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system 7. Other forms of tuberculosis 8. Syphilitic diseases 9. Influenza 10. Measles 11. Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis lethargica 12. Acute inf. encephalitis 13. Cancer of mouth (M) uterus (F) 14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum 15. Cancer of breast 16. Cancer of all other sites 17. Diabetes 18. Intra-cranicl vascular lesions 19. Heart Disease 20. Other diseases of circulatory system 21. Bronchitis 22. Pneumonia 23. Other respiratory diseases 24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum 25. Diarrhoea under 2 years 26. Appendicitis 27. Other digestive diseases 28. Nephritis 29. Puerperal sepsis etc. 30. Other maternal causes 31. Premature birth 32. Congenital malformations etc. 33. Suicide 34. Road Traffic accidents 35. Other violent causes 36. All other causes		
Deaths of Infants under l year:- TOTAL DEATHS Legitimate Illegitimate	4. 4.	5 4 1
Live Births:-		
TOTAL BIRTHS. Legitimate Illegitimate	191 185 6	196 179 17
Stillbirths:-		
TOTAL STILLBIRTHS Legitimate Illegitimate		3 -
Resident population to middle of 1946	• • • • • • •	17,830.

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Analysis of age groups of deaths occurring during 1946.

					Age Gro	ouns.	
Parish	0-10	10-20	20-40	40-60	60-70	70–80	80-100
Allhallows Cliffe Cobham Cooling Cuxton Frindsbury Halling Higham High Halstow Hoo Grain Luddesdowne Meopham St. Mary Hoo Shorne Stoke	-2-1213-2-1-1-1-	2	- 1 - - 1 1 - 2 - 2 - 1	172-2125241-3-1	-42-4427-5118-32	1 54 1 2 9 0 6 1 0 1 1 1 1 - 3	-54-5677331-7121
TOTALS	11	3	9	31	43	65	52
Percentage of total deaths		1.4%	4.2%	14.5%	20%	30.4%	24.3%

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Tabulated statement of Cases of Notified Infectious Fever in each Parish:-

PARISH	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia.	Pulmonery g	Mon Pulmonary g	Poliomyelitis	TOTAL
Allhallows Cliffe Cobham Cooling Cuxton Frindsbury Halling Higham High Halstow Hoo Isle of Grain Luddesdowne Meopham St. Mary Hoo Shorne Stoke	1 -9 - 4		112-025-16-4-14	1 2 1 2 - 3 - 1	- - - 4 - 1 - - 1	-13332121111	- - 1 - 1 - 1	•	231 - 251 421 - 2345
TOTALS	28	1	45	10	6	19	4.	_	115

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ALCOHOL AND A STATE OF THE STAT

The following arrangements have been made for the reception and treatment of cases of Infectious Diseases:-Small Pox to Dislingbury Hospital (Tel. Maidstone 4321)

Other Diseases to Dartford (Bow Arrow) Isolation Hospital, (Tel. Dartford 3369.)

The following table shows the number of cases and deaths from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever since 1937:-

	Scarlet	Fever	Diphth	Enteric Fever				
YEAR	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths		
1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946	13 546 3240 47 28 28	Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil	9 50 15 2 3 Nil 6 Nil 2	l 2 Nil Nil Nil 2 Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil		
TOTAL	346	1	87	5	2	1		

TUBERCULOSIS

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the Year ended 31st day of December, 1946:-

	Pul	monar	, À		Non monar	У	Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary		
`	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	Total		
(a) Number of cases of Tuber-culosis on the Register at the commencement of the year	26	21	47	28	26	54	101		
(b) Number of cases notified to me under the Regulations of 1912 for the first time	17	7	24	2	3	5	29		
(c) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year (d) Number of cases remaining on the Register at	9	4	13	6	5	11	24		
the end of the year	34	24	58	24	24	48	1.06		

A Company of the Comp

Occupation of persons notified as suffering from Tuberculosis of all forms for the first time during the year:-

Ex - H.M. Forces	3
Housewife	4
Armament Workers	3
Labourer	2
Cowman	1
Butcher	1
Baker's Roundsman	1
Railway Clerk	1
Naval Cadet	1
Printer	1
Canteen Worker	1
Occupation unknown	4

Reasons for removal of already notified cases from the Register during the year:-

Removed from Rural .	
District	3
No. A m	5
	í

SCARLET FEVER.

Number of	cases	notifi	ed			 28
Number of	deaths	5		• • • • • •		 Nil
Case fata:	lity pe	er cent				 Nil
Number of	cases	remove	d to I	Hospita	al	 15.
Number of Percentage	e of ca	ases re	moved.			 53%

DIPHTHERIA.

Number	ΟŢ.	case	3 €	no	tii	iec	1					• (•	•	 •	1
Number	of	deat	ths							• (•			Nil
Case fa	tal	ity	pe	r	cer	t.						•	•			Mil
Number	of	cas	9.S	re	mov	red	to	H	OS	gg	Lte	ll.	•			1
Number Percent	age	of	c a	s e	s r	emo	ove	d		•		•	 •			100%

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Every effort is made to bring the advantages of Immunisation against Diphtheria, to the notice of all parents and particularly to the parents of young children and babies. Free treatment is available to every child, the cost of the service being borne by the Council, and as from the 1st April, 1946, the County Council, for children up to five years of age. Active propaganda methods include the individual notification to parents of all babies born in the Rural District, by means of special birthday cards, advertisements in the public press, and by national posters.

A total of 220 children of the following age groups were immunised during the year:-

- 0 5 years.....204 children.
- 5 14 years.....16 children.
- 41 immunised at Clinic at the Strood Rural District Council Offices.
- 61 immunised at Child's Home.
- 52 immunised at Doctor's Surgery.
- 66 immunised at Maternity & Child Welfare Centres.

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SCABIES.

During the year the following cases of scabies were notified and facilities were provided for cleansing:-

Number	of	adults affected	11
		children	
Number	of	houses in which	
infed	etic	ons occurred	28

SMALL POX.

No cases were notified during the year.

Dislingbury Hospital is available to receive patients suffering from smallpox. Accordingly the arrangements for the temporary use of Capel Isolation Hospital are no longer operative.

In the event of accommodation at Dislingbury being required for a patient from the area, contact is made with the County Medical Officer of Health (Tel. Maidstone 4321.)

ANTI MALARIAL MEASURES.

In connection with the control of Mosquitos, all possible breeding grounds, such as ditches, pools, ponds, and other stagnant water, were treated with malarial anti-mosquito emulsion.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HUALTH SURVICES FOR THE AREA. KENT COUNTY NURSING ASSOCIATION.

Particulars of work done by the various nursing Associations operating in the Strood Rural District from 1st April 1946, to 31st March, 1947.

	Cas	ses Nurse	Total				
Association	Mid- wifery	Mat- ernity	Gen- eral.	Cases	Visits		
Cliffe and Cooling	16	2 2	24	62	1,087		
Cobham, Luddes- downe and Shorne	15	6	74	95	747		
Higham	25	11	118	154	1,975		
Hoo	17		41	58	583		
Meopham and Nursted	13	8	148	169	2,018		
Stoke	25	11	70	106	1,807		
TOTAL	111	58	475	644	8,217		

N.B. See Appendix for particulars of Maternity & Child Welfare Clinics; Midwives; Parishes served by District Midwives of Nursing Associations; Minor Ailment, Aural, Child Guidance, Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Speech Clinics; Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics; Tuberculosis Dispensaries; Venereal Diseases Clinics; Hospitals.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Rural District is supplied with water from the mains of the Mid Kent Water Company., in the parishes of Cuxton, Halling and Vigo Village, Meopham; the Higham & Hundred of Hoo Mater Company for the remaining parishes of the Rural District, with the exception of the Kent County Council smallholdings at Shorne Ifield, which have a private supply from a Spring in Cobham Woods.

The sufficiency of the supplies is satisfactory; the supplies are constant and no plumbo solvency is present.

All waters supplied by the above statutory undertakings, are subject to frequent examination, samples being taken at monthly intervals by the officers of the Sanitary Department and analysis carried out by the County Bacteriologist at County Laboratories, Maidstone.

Table of bacteriological analysis of water supplied from the Mains of Public Water Undertakings and private supply main.

		auppry 1						
HIGHAM	& HUNDRE	D OF HO	O WATER CO PANY					
DATE	No.of or isms per capable growth i at 37°C	cc. of n Agar	B. Coli (presumptive)	Remarks				
29 January 13 March 10 April 9 May 5 June 24 July 4 September 9 October	0000000	0000000	Absent in 100 ccs. "" "" "" "" "" ""	Good water				
	MID KEN	T WATER	COMPANY.					
29 January 13 March 10 April 9 May 5 June 24 July 4 September 9 October	0000000	00000000	11 11 11 11 11	11 11 11 11 11 11				
KENT COUNTY (COUNCIL P	RIVATE	SUPPLY, SHORNE	IFIELD.				
29 January 13 March 10 April 9 May 5 June 24 July 4 September 9 October	00000000	00063240	Present in 30 ccs. Absent in 100 ccs. Present in 100 ccs.	" " Not typical B. Coli Good Water Not typical B. Coli.				

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Table of chemical analysis of water supplied from the Mains of Public Water Undertakings, and Private Supply Main.

·	Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Company	Mid Kent Water Company	K.C.C. private supply at Shorne Ifield
Total solid residue Chlorine Free Ammonia Albuminoid	36.0 2.0 0.0	37.0 2.0 0.0	62.5 7.0 0.0
Ammonia Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.0	0.002	0.0
Oxygen absorbed the hour at 80°F		0.014	0.008
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours at 80°F Nitrites	0.024	0.032	C.014
Remarks	The water is of excellent organic quality	The water is of excellent organic quality	The water is of good organic quality

Houses not supplied from public mains usually rely on shallow wells or rainwater storage tanks as their means of domestic water supply. Wells are usually in proximity to cultivated lands or other sources of sewage pollution and frequent inspection is necessary.

Three samples of water have been taken from such wells, details of the analysis being:-

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Source	No.of organis per cc.capabl of growth on Agar at 37°C. 22°C	1	Remarks.
Shallow well, Polly Adams Corner, Hoo.	540 890	Present in 1/10ccs,	B.Coli presumptive present in 1/10 ccs, Further tests showed the presence of typical B.Coli in 1 cc. A badly contaminated water.
Spring water, Brook Row, Lower 'Stoke.	0 34	Present in 10 ccs.	B.Coli presumptive present in 10 ccs, absent in 1 cc. Further tests showed the presence of typical B.Coli in 10ccs. A contaminated water.
Shallow well, "Ship Inn" Lower Stoke.	0 58	Present in 40 ccs.	B.Coli presumptive present in 40ccs, absent in 30 ccs. Further tests showed the presence of typical B.Coli in 40 ccs. A contaminated water.

v . . . As a result of adverse analysis of certain well waters, pressure was brought to bear on the owners of the houses drawing water from these wells, to have the main water supplies extended indoors and as a result, 9 houses were provided with main water and three wells were closed.

A summary of water supply in the Rural District shows:-

Estimated proportion of houses supplied from public mains:-

(a) Direct into houses 87% (b) Bymeans of standpipes 12%

As soon as the necessary labour and materials become available, action will be taken within the provisions of the Water Act, 1945, to have those houses now supplied with water through standpipes, provided with water direct into the houses.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISTOSAL.

The Parishes of Hoo, Halling, Allhallows and Grain are provided with main sewerage systems, the sewage works being situated in close proximity to the Rivers Thames and Medway, into which the effluents are finally discharged. Most of the properties along the lines of sewers in the parishes of Allhallows, Grain and Halling are drained thereto, but delay in redraining properties in the Parish of Hoo, has been occasioned through a serious shortage of materials and labour.

During the year, an official inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health into the Council's application for sanction to provide sewerage and sewage disposal works for the Parishes of Frindsbury, Higham and Shorne, as a result of which the Minister's approval was given and the scheme is now in course of preparation for estimates from Civil Engineering Contractor.

With respect to future schemes, the Council have given instructions to their Consulting Engineer to prepare proposals for the sewering of the Parishes of Meopham, Cobham, Luddesdowne, Cuxton and North Halling, the Parish of Cliffe and the Parish of Stoke.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection. A weekly refuse collection service operates in all parishes in the Runal District. Collections are carried out with "Dennis" Barrier loading refuse vehicles supplemented by a Bedford Refuse Vehicle when occasion arises requiring the use of a third vehicle. In operating the scheme, the Council have stipulated certain requirements to be carried out by householders:-

- (a) bins for collection shall be placed on or adjacent to the Fublic Highway.
- (b) bins of a size not exceeding 20" x 16" shall be provided by owners of property desirous of availing their tenants of the benefits of the scheme. Owing to the great difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of metal ashbins, the Council have assisted owners of property by themselves procuring the bins and reselling to the owners at cost price plus a small delivery charge.

The refuse collection service is available to all house-holds in the Rural District.

Refuse Disposal. The central tipping site is situated in a disused clay pit off the Grain Road at Hoo, the Council leasing

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approximately 2 acres for the purpose. Tipping is, as far as labour will allow, carried out in the manner prescribed by the Ministry of Health in their memorandum on controlled tipping. The tip is treated at regular intervals with proprietory brands of tip dressing and frequently dusted with Gammexane Powder as a precaution against infestation from crickets, flies and other insects.

In addition to the Hoo Refuse Tip, another tip is used at Halling. This tip is situated in a very deep disused chalk quarry. The maintenance work required on this site is negligible since the quarry is also used by the owners as a depository for factory waste with the result that the small quantities of household refuse tipped therein are immediately covered up by the waste.

Cesspools and Pail Closets. The Council have operated a cesspool emptying vehicle by direct labour since 1st April, 1945, and undertook the collection of pail closets, utilising the same vehicle, when the contractor's agreement expired on the 30th June 1945.

Cesspools are emptied on demand from owners or occupiers of houses. The contents of the cesspools are disposed of by emptying into the public sewerage systems where available, and tipping on fields in positions well removed from habitations where sewers are not available.

The cost of cesspool emptying is a general rate fund charge, but the Council have stipulated certain conditions with respect to the frequency of emptying and their resolution of the 21st March, 1945, provides that:

"The District Council for the Rural District of Strood
"resolve, pursuant to Section 72 of the Public Health Act, 1936,
"to undertake as and from the 1st April, 1945, to cleanse any
"cesspool upon receiving reasonable notice from the occupier of
"any premises within the Rural District provided that this
"obligation shall not extend to or require the Council to under"take the cleansing of any cesspool more frequently than once in
"any period of three months, but the Council may, if thought fit,
"and at the request of the owners or occupier of any premises,
"cleanse any cesspool at more frequent intervals on payment of such
"charge as may be determined from time to time."

This resolution was however, amended during 1947, the Council now undertaking to empty cesspools four times per year free of charge.

Pail Closets. As from 1st July 1945, pail closet collection was instituted in the Parishes of Hoo, Stoke, Allhallows and Isle of Grain (previously collected by contract). The cesspool vehicle is used for the purpose of collection, through the medium of a night soil attachment affixed to the rear of the vehicle. The contents of the pail are deposited into the night soil attachment and are immediately drawn up into the tank, thereby reducing smell nuisance to an absolute minimum.

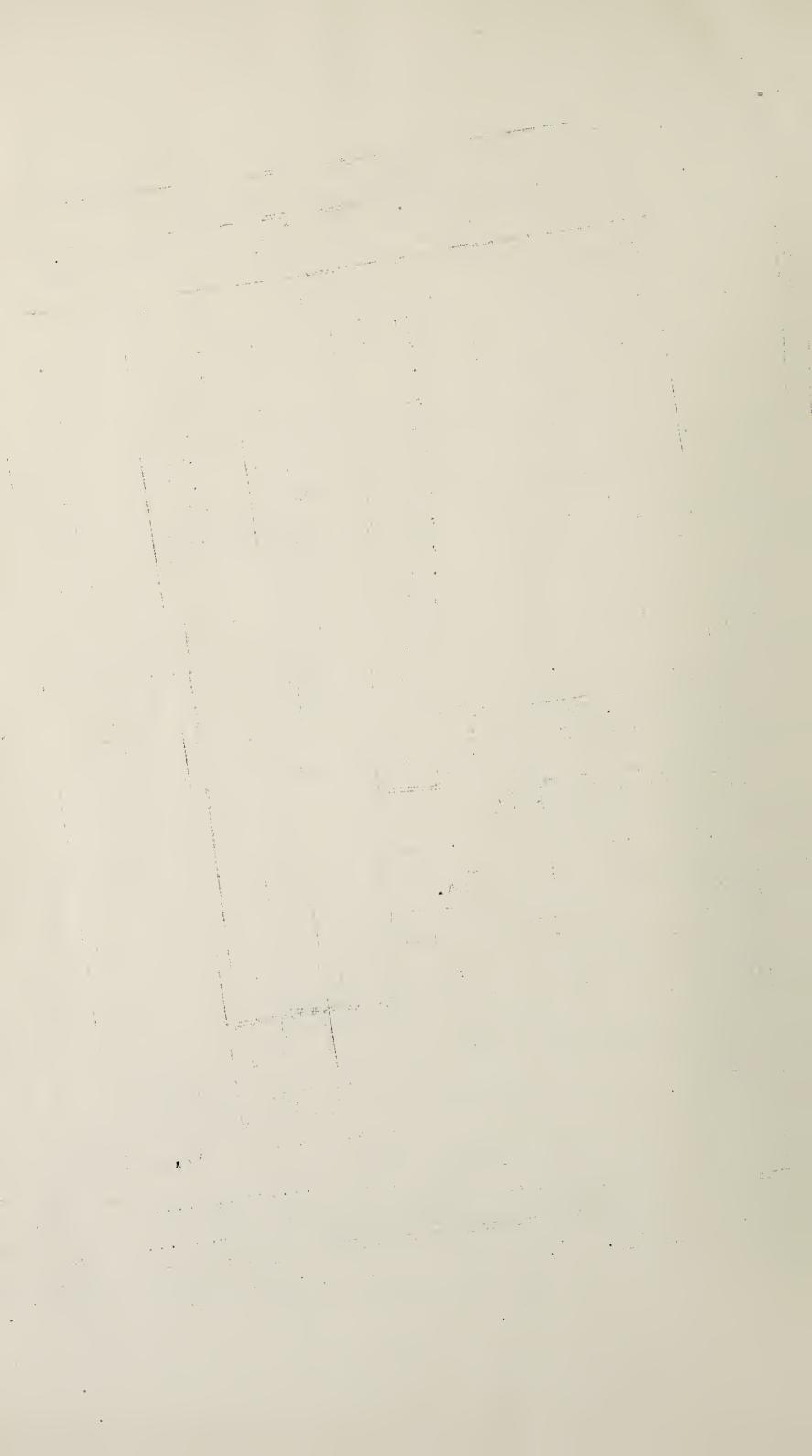
Vehicle Maintenance. All vehicles are garaged at the Council Depot, Cliffe Road, Cliffe. A full time méchanic is engaged in continuous vehicle maintenance and it is of singular note that not one day has been lost in refuse collection since the complete direct labour scheme was inaugurated. All vehicles are subject to a maintenance overhaul every three months and a complete stripdown and overhaul every 12 months.

The employment of a mechanic has proved of inestimable value to keeping the service running at a high degree of efficiency.

	Refuse Collection	Cessp	ools	Pail C	losets
Parish	No.of bins		Gallon-	No. of	Gallonage ·
	collected.	cesspools emptied	age removed	pails collected	removed.
A 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71 71	0 = 7.0				7 000
Allhallows	2,530	18	27,650	918	3,820
Cliffe Cobham	24,428	108	170,225		_
	11,671	34	56,845		-
Cooling	1,089	9	10,100		· ·
Cuxton	14,311	51 160	64,575	-	_
Frindsbury Halling	25,453 33,955	. 7	336,640 8,100	_	
Higham	21,638	128	253,950		_
High Halstow	3,773	7	6,700	_	
Hoo	22,869	73	130,310	12,036	45,840
Grain	5,552	10	5,160	1,326	7,640
Luddesdowne	766	5	8,500	_	-
Meopham	30,917	111	190,505		_
Shorne	14,827	58	28,450		
Stoke	6,790	17	90,200	5,457	19,100
St. Mary Hoo	3,718	21	17,500	-	
TOTAL NO. OF	7,1		1,000		
BINS COLLECTED	224,287				
TOTAL WEIGHT OF	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
REFUSE COLLECTE	D tons.				
NO. OF MILES					
COVERED IN COLLECTING	22,964				
REFUSE				·	
TOTAL NO. OF CE	ESSPOOLS	817			
TOTAL GALLOMAGE	E OF SEWAGE		1,405,410		
NO. MILES COVER	RED IN EMPTY				
CESSPOOLS					
TOTAL NO. OF TA	AILS COLLECT				
TOTAL GALLONAGE	e of PAIL CI	LOSETS REMO	OVED	• • • • • • • • • • •	76,400
TOTAL MILEAGE (COVERED IN E	EMPTYING P.	AIL CLOSE	TS	3,344

Refuse Disposal. 1,388 tons of refuse disposed of at Too Refuse Tip.

694 tons of refuse disposed of at Halling Refuse
Tip.



HOUSING.

The undermentioned table summarizes the position relating to the need for houses in all parts of the Rural District and the ection the Council has taken and is taking to meet such needs:-

		n ag	l tr	paq	(3)					1011						18				<u> </u>	· ·	 Suc	
	181	s ending	Reau	itioned	prorety (Units)	Y	1	1	1	1	13	1	W	r!	1	1	1	i J	1	9	1	15	
			Tenp-	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	ı	10	9	ŧ	9	1	i	ł	1	i	22	
PROGRAMME	ent and	for the two	กฎร กฎร	Com-	pleted	1	1	ì	i	ı	1	1	i	t	1	ı	1	∞	1	9	1	14	or referred as discon-
ING PRO	shows the present	riot fo	01 e171	Under	constr- uction	4	ı	1	1	1	34	1	20	20	ı	01	1	1	1	1	1	84	
R HOUSING		4	II III UNIUS New Dw	Tenders	ar- ored	1	1	30	1	1	34	1	09	50	1	10	1	24	1	91	1	 194	
[analysis	nme for 48.	1119 (S110 will 95	L	or under constr- uction		1	30	1	29	38	1	92	22	1	18	1	24	1	91	ı	244	
	wing	sing programme f t March, 1948.	Site		Ac- cuired		76	30	10	20	38	82	92	22	14	18	12	24	ł	91	9	408	
	The fol	housing ru 31st March	rermane		Pro- gramme	20	50	4.0	10	44	86	12	92	4.6	14	89	12	54	10	91	20	590	
SES	46		∰O⊞ AT.			20	62	45	12	46	190	6	140	84	50	74	,	84	∞	& N	<u>ૂ</u>	876	, , ,
COUNCIL HOU	t December 194	Applications from families	ව්ධ	•		11	42	18	0	92	120	0	100	09	15	21	1	48	4	14.	0	 536	
FOR	Position at 31st	Arlications from families	living in	houses		0	37	27	M	50	. 02	10	40	, 24	*	23	Н	36	7	14	7.7	240	
APPL	Pos		2, 3, 3, 4,			Allhallows	Cliffe	Cobham	Cooling	Guxton	Frindsbury	Grain	Halling	Higham	High Halstow	Ноо	Luddesdowne	Mecpham	St.Mary Hoo	Shorne	Stoke	TOTALS	

Although the Council are doing everything in their power to provide accommodation by way of the erection of traditional brick houses, prefabricated temporary and permanent houses and the requisitioning of empty houses for accommodation of single families or for conversion into flats, the demand far exceeds the supply of houses; for instance, the number of applicants for Council houses at the end of 1946 was almost double that for December 1945, i.e. 876 at December 31st 1946, against 490 at 31st December, 1945.

This delay is having serious repercussions on slum clearance programmes which have been contemplated to take place within the next five years. A large number of houses in the Rural District have far outlived their usefulness and as each year progresses, these houses become more and more dilapidated, so that now they are a menace to the health of those families who are forced to Every endeavour is made to keep such houses live in them. reasonably weatherproof and watertight, but any remedial repairs undertaken are only temporary and must be repeated at very frequent intervals. I can only reiterate the observations I made in my report of 1945, wherein I expressed my opinion that the demolition of unfit houses must receive immediate consideration and that the rehousing of families from such houses should receive equal, if not a greater, priority than the families who have no separate home of their own. I must again make adverse comment upon the state of maintenance repairs to a great many houses in the Rural District. The insufficient labour force in the district coupled by the shortage of materials, is making the work of the Public Health Department extremely difficult, especially in securing the repair of houses under Sanitary Notice. A great deal of the time of the department is spent in finding builders who are willing to carry out housing repairs within a reasonable time and although pressure is brought to bear on both owner and builder, considerable delays do occur between the time of inspection of the houses and the time when repairs are completed.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

TIOOSTIME STATISTICS.	
Number of new houses erected during the Year:-	
(a) By private enterprise 13	
(b) By the local authority 36	
1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	1,253
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,846
(2) (a) Total number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	46
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	7 5
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	14
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found	

32

not to be in all respects fit for human

) (m = 48) . . * * * *

- 14 -
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs
(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
(a) by owners
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (a) by owners
(a) by owners
C. Number of houses voluntarily demolished during the year 4
ARMY CAMPS.
Towards the latter end of the year, army camps in the Rural District, lying vacant after cessation of hostilities, were occupied by civilian families. In all, six camps were so occupied and although the civilians took possession without any official authority it was obvious that they had every intention

of remaining in the accommodation they had appropriated. the 31st December, 1946, 268 families were living in Army Camps situated at:-

Avery Way, Allhallows 24 families. Dillywood Camp, Frindsbury 25 families. 3 families. Shorne Ifield, Shorne Laughing Water Camp, Cobham 63 families.

All these camps had been constructed during the war and were laid out to suit the requirements of army life, all the services being on a communal basis. The huts at Allhallows, Dillywood and Lodge Lane Camps, are constructed of timber, but at Laughing Water Camp, the majority of the huts have only a thin fabric lining and are prone to the effects of the weather. The Trotham Camp which is the largest of all the camps, comprises five separate camps of a total huttage of 1,000, most of which are of the Nissen type. In view of the size of this camp, the Council decided to invite the neighbouring Local Authorities to participate in its use and the Borough of Gravesend and the Urban District of Northfleet took over several parts of the camp.

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To ensure decent living conditions, it was considered that the minimum requirements at each hut should include the provision of a water tap, sink with ancilliary drainage, cooking facilities and lavatory accommodation, together with the subdivision of each hut into living and bedrooms sufficient for the needs of individual families. Fortunately all camps, except Lodge Lane, were drained by a sewerage system to which water closets, and wherever possible, sink drains, were connected. At Lodge Lane an efficient septic tank disposal plant had been installed, and it was possible for water closets to be erected and connected thereto.

At the end of the year, the Allhallows Camp had been converted and necessary works were in progress of construction at Wrotham and Cobham, but work could not proceed at Dillywood Camp since agreement could not be reached with respect to the transfer of the requisition from the Military Authorities to the Ministry of Health.

Educational, general public health and shopping facilities were available for the camp residents, except at Wrotham Camp, where owing to its size it was necessary to provide these services in the camp itself. Shops, and a Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic have been provided at B.Camp, which was considered central to all of the camps, and steps were in progress towards the provision of educational facilities. All camps are provided with a public cleansing service and the same general services as are applicable to the other residents of the Rural District.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Dairies, Cowsheds and Purveyors of Milk.

The general standard of milk production in this district has been maintained at a high level and the producers are to be congratulated on their efforts to produce milk of good quality and cleanliness.

It was necessary in 12 cases, to draw the attention of the milk producers to the dirty state of milk coolers, milking sheds and approach roads. In all instances immediate action was taken to conform with the Inspectors' requirements.

Several complaints were received from householders to the effect that milk delivered in the morning was sour by lunch time and on investigation it was found that the milk was "accommodation milk" supplied from outside sources. The principal source of supply of this milk is from Devon and Somerset Farms and souring was due to the age of the milk when it was delivered to consumers in the Rural District. Unfortunately it is impossible to control accommodation milk since it is supplied from the Milk Marketing Board Milk Pool and purveyors in the district, requiring implementation of their home produced milk to meet consumers demands, have to rely on this milk.

In several instances it was found that the milk was being delivered to the purveyors in dirty churns and necessary information was passed on to the Principal of the Milk Testing Advisory Committee for the South Western Region for his appropriate action.

During the year, 207 visits were paid to cowsheds and dairies.

MILK SAMPLING.

TABLE I.

	DEG	T CAT A DITTO TO	TTT		
NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR	Tuberculin Tested		ILK Total	ORDIN- ARY MILK	HEAT TRUAT- ED.
	29	1.8	47	39	3
(a)(i) Number of samples of designated milk found to conform with the Standards prescribed in the Milk (Special Designations)Orders (ii) Number of samples of designated milk found on examination to have failed to conform with the Standards prescribed (b)(i) Number of sam	23 Ples of or	12 6	35 12		
on examination to ha				27	
(ii) Number of samples of ordinary milk found on examination to have been produced in a dirty manner					
(c)(i) Number of above samples of ordinary milk examined for Tubercle Bacilli infection and found on examination to yield negative results (ii) Number of above samples of ordinary milk examined for Tubercle Bacilli infection and found on examination to yield positive results					
(d) Number of sample examination to have					3

Analysis of Milk Registrations in Rural District at 31st December, 1946.

	DES	IGNATED MI	LLK	
	Tuberculin . Tested	Accredited	Total	ORDINARY MILK
Wholesale Producers	8	3 ·	10	
Producers/Retailers		3	3	
Retailers		_	a _{st} end	
Wholesale Producers				13
Producer/Retailers	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	13
Retailers only	• • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • •	6
Retailers only from	outside R	ural Distri	ict	1

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SALE OF FOOD & DRUGS ACT.

This act is administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the Kent County Council. The office of the Inspector whose area includes the Strood Rural District is F.A.Merrifield, Esq., Dartford Division, Kent Road, Dartford. The following return of samples taken during the year 1946 has been received from S. Strugnell, Esq., The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department, County Hall, Maidstone.

Article	Number	οſ	samples.
Brandy Butter Cake mixture Camphorated Oil Cod Liver Oil Coffee Condensed milk Cough Syrup Custard Powder Gin Ice Cream Jam Lard Lemon Curd Lemon Substitute Lime Flavouring Margarine Milk Peas Pepper Phenocetin Tablets Powdered Soup Sausage Meat Self Raising Flour Sugar Syrup of Hypophosphites Syrup of White Pine and Tar Tinned Soup Vinegar		111222	

All the above samples were reported to be genuine, with the exception of Milk Sample No. H.28, which contained 5.1% extraneous water. Proceedings were instituted against the sellers who were each fined £2 plus £1. lls. 6d. Advocate's fee and 10/- costs, making a total of £6. ls. 6d.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following items of foodstuffs were examined, found unfit for human consumption, condemned and destroyed:-

Commodity	Weight	Reasons for condemnation.
Cheese Cocoa Dried Figs Butter	7 lbs. 8½ lbs. 39½ lbs. 6 lbs.	Mouldy Contaminated. Mouldy Rancid
Shellfish Canned Milk Canned plums Canned meat Canned Fish Canned Beans	4 cwt. 4 bushels. 72 cans 46 cans 1 can 5 cans 1 can	Putrefied. Damaged and blown Blown. Damaged Damaged. Damaged.

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Commodity	Weigh		easons for
etrolliserrotas discontinuos de construir et de construir	\$ - Partity Later to the contract of the contr	C	ondemnation.
Canned peas Canned casserole Canned soup Dried Milk Biscuits	l cr l cr l cr 225 2011	in in lbs.	Damaged Damaged Damaged Putrefied Damaged by flood
Rice	7 11		water. Infested with insects.
Fresh meat Bacon	2 <u>2</u> 0 1 4 4 -	lbs.	Putrefaction. Rancid.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS! DEPARTMENT.

Summary of Inspections and Visits.

Dwelling Houses inspected under Public Health Acts. Dwelling Houses inspected under Housing Acts Re-inspections after service of notices and visits to supervise works in progress	1,207 96 3,075
Inspections and visits re requisitioning of empty houses	16 320
Army Camps Visits under Rats and Mice Destruction Acts Visits to Council premises Visits to Schools Thyographications of Infortious Discosors	5,320 14 18 68
Investigations of Infectious Diseases Investigations of verminous premises and persons Inspection of cowsheds and dairies Inspection of Tents, Van Sheds, Temporary Dwellings Visits to Factories, Bakehouses, Fish Friers Inspection of Piggeries	8 207 38 37 19 78
Visits re water supplies Inspections under Petroleum Regulations Inspection of shops Interviews with owners, agents and builders Miscellaneous visits	78 47 35 319 207
TOTAL	11,129

Summary of Repairs effected to Dwelling Houses through action under Public Health and Housing Acts.

stoom white I don't iterity in a state of the state of th	
Drainage and Sanitary Fittings.	
Houses redrained Defective drains repaired Drains unstopped and cleansed New ventilated soil pipes fixed New ventshafts fixed Privies abolished and replaced by W.C's Insufficient water closet accommodation New water closet apartments built Water closets provided with pedestals and traps Flushing apparatus and water supply provided to W.C's Water closet fittings repaired and cleansed New sinks fixed Trapped wastepipes fixed New lavatory basins and baths fixed Dangerous cesspools filled in Defective inspection chambers and covers renewed	2 5 14 1 14 39
Water tests applied	12 2 23
Colour tests applied	<i>-)</i>

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Miscellaneous.

Number of houses demolished	-
Dangerous walls re-constructed and underpinned Water supply laid on in houses Water supply pipes repaired Roofs repaired Befective brickwork and pointing of brickwork repaired Guttering or downpipes provided or repaired Jamp wall remedied Yards repaved Yard paving repaired Wew wash-houses built Defective floors repaired Defective wall and ceiling plaster repaired Dirty walls cleansed Dirty ceilings cleansed Defective windows repaired or renewed Ventilation to rooms improved Ventilation to rooms improved Ventilation to rooms improved Handrails provided to staircases Defective staircases and treads repaired Ventilated food stores provided or improved Steam outlets provided in scullery wash-houses Sanitary dustbins provided Instances of overcrowding abated Verminous rooms treated Nuisances from animals abated Nuisances from manure and refuse abated Dairies re-constructed Miscellaneous defects remedied Sewage purification plant cleansed and repaired Inbefective sanitary pails renewed 70 Defective sanitary pails renewed 71 Defective sanitary pails renewed 72 Defective sanitary pails renewed 73 Defective sanitary pails renewed 74 Defective sanitary pails renewed 75 Defective sanitary pails renewed 75 Defective sanitary pails renewed 76 Defective sanitary pails renewed 77 Defective sanitary pails renewed 78 Defective sanitary pails renewed	866197341846794646281214234392
DOLOGOLA O DOLLE OCC. A COLC WOO. A COLC WOOL WOOL A COLC WOOL WOOL WOOL WOOL WOOL WOOL WOOL	

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Page 1.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Cliffe Cobham	The Black Bull. Meadow Room	1st,3rd,5th Tuesday 2nd & 4th Wednesday	
Cuxton	National Schoolroom	2nd & 4th Thursday	
Grain	Chapel Schoolroom	1st & 3rd Friday	!!
Halling	Working Mens' Club	1st, 3rd,5th Friday	11
Harvel	Village Hall	lst & 3rd Monday	11
Higham	Congregational School-	,	
	rooms.	lst,3rd,5th Monday	!!
Ноо	Five Bells Inn	Every Wednesday	11
Meopham		, and the second se	
(Voluntary)	Village. Hall	1st & 3rd Thursday	11
Wrotham Camp	M.&.C.W.Centre, Nr.		
	Vigo Inn, Meopham.	Opening shortly.	
Stoke.	Nags Head.	2nd Friday	11
Wainscott.	Village Hall.	1st & 3rd Wednesday	!!
Strood.	Ante-natal Clinic,		
	Gun Lane.	Alternate Friday aft	ternoons.

MTDWTVES .

	MID WIA TO S.	
Halling) Cuxton)	Mrs. I.G. Sheath, St. Clement's, Church Hill, Cuxton.	Tel. Strood 7503.
Frindsbury Extra.	Mrs. L.M.Ross, 9 Woodstock Road, Strood.	Tel. Strood 7206.
PARISHES SERVI	ED BY DISTRICT MIDWIVES OF NURSING A	SSOCIATIONS.
Cliffe) Cooling)	Miss A.L. Taylor, 5 Irvine Terrace, Cliffe at Hoo.	Tel. Cliffe 23.
Shorne) Luddesdowne) Cobham)	Miss E.Backhouse, 6 High Street, Cobham.	Tel. Cobham 3128.
Higham.	Miss S.McGarvey, l Alexander Cottages, School Lane, Higham.	Tel. Shorne 309.
Hoo.	Miss M.A.Webb) ll St.Werbergh Miss F.L.Tribble) Crescent, Hoo.	Tel. Hoo 66.
Allhallows. High Halstow. Isle of Grain Hoo St.Mary Stoke.	,	Tel. Hoo 52.
Meopham.	Miss J.M.Collie, Clements Reach,	Tel.

Meopham. Meopham 3127.

MINOR AILMENT, AURAL, CHILD GUIDANCE, DENTAL, OPHTHALMIC, ORTHOPAEDIC AND SPEECH CLINICS.

Minor Ailment Clinics.

Gravesend,	Windmill	Street.	Every	Mor	nday	, Tuesdaj	y , ;	∜ed	lnesda;	у,
ŕ			Thursd	lay	and	Friday,	9.	30	a.m.	

Every Tuesday and Friday, 10.30 a.m. Denton.

Health Visitor attends every morning Northfleet, West Kent House, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., and Medical Officer on every Saturday morning. Station Road.

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Page 2.

Minor Ailment Clinics contd.

Dartford, County Hospital.

Mealth Visitor attends every morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Medical Officer every Saturday morning

Aural Clinics.

Gravesend, Gravesend Hospital.E.N.T.Surgeon attends 2nd and 4th
Wednesday afternoons in the month
and Aural Nurse on 1st, 3rd, and 5th
Wednesday mornings.

Dartford, County Hospital. E.M.T.Surgeon attends 3rd Wednesday afternoon in the month and the Aural Nurse on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons.

Chatham, County Hospital.

E.W.T.Surgeon attends every Thursday morning in the month and the Aural Nurse every Saturday morning in the month.

Child Guidance Clinics.

Chatham, 118 Maidstone Road. Every Monday, Tuesday and Friday all day (by appointment.)

Dental Clinics.

Northfleet, West Kent House, Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Station Road. all day.

Gravesend, 5 Manor Road. Every day.

In addition temporary clinics are held at Stone Bean, Hartley, Longfield, Meopham, Southfleet, Fawkham, Higham, Shorne and Cobham.

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Gravesend & North Kent Every Tuesday morning and every Hospital. Thursday afternoon.

Dartford, County Hospital. 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday in the month all day.

Every Monday in the month all day.

Gravesend (Borough)
Gravesend & North Kent
Hospital.

Every Friday afternoon.

Chatham, 118 Maidstone Road. Every Monday, all day.
Every Wednesday, all day.
1st, 3rd, 5th Friday, mornings only.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

* Dartford, County Hospital. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesday afternoons in the month.

Gravesend Borough Referred to Orthopsedic Surgeon at Gravesend Hospital, by arrangement.

Speech Clinic.

Chatham, "Elmsleigh," 118 Maidstone Road.

Every Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday.

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Page 3.

Example appointments. Heads of schools who are seeking emergency dental appointments. Heads of schools who are seeking emergency dental treatment for the relief of pain for any child should telephone the Divisional Education Officer in order to scertain whether the dental surgeon is in attendance at the clinic. If a clinic is not being held, the Divisional Education Officer will advise as to the name and address of the nearest dentist whose services have been made available under the Committee's scheme for emergency dental treatment.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Clinic held at Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 4 p.m.

Cobham Meadow Room 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons.

Meopham. Village Hall. 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

and at all Maternity & Child Welfare Centres as listed on Page 1 of the Appendix.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

13 New Road, Rochester. Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Graves end & North Kent Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Hospital, Gravesend.

Tel. Gravesend 1061.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

36 New Road, Rochester. MEN Mondays 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tel. Chatham 3343. Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WOMEN Mondays 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

22 Cobham Street, Gravesend. MEN Tuesdays 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

WOMEN Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Thursdays 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Thursdays 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

HOSPITALS. Out Patient Clinics.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

Mondays.

9.00	a.m.	Dental		Mr.	$^{\mathrm{T}}$.	Barnes.
10.30	a.m.	Orthopaedic and	Fractures	Mr.	G.	Taunton.
		d.		Mr.	G.	Townsley.
1.30	p.m.	Surgical	·	Mr.	G.	Townsley.
	who .	Medical.				.Richards.
2.00	who .					

Tuesdays.

11.30 a.m.	Ear, Nosē and Throat.	Mr. A.W.G.Woodforde.
2.00 p.m.	Medical and Skin.	Dr. G.O.S.Reid.
3.30 p.m.	Diabetic.	Dr. I. Wolpert.

Wednesdays.

10.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m.	Cardiac Ophthalmic Varicose Veins and Haemorrhoids.	Dr. F.A.Richards. Mr. W.E.Heath.
		Mr. K.B.Glynn.

Page 4.

Thursdays.				
9.00 a.m.	Dental.	Mr. T. Barnes.		
10.30 a.m.	Orthopaedic and Fractures.	Mr. G. Taunton. Mr. G. Townsley. Dr. A. Knox.		
3.30 p.m.	Medical.	Dr. I. Wolpert.		
Fridays.				
11.00 a.m.	Radio-Therapeutic	Mr. G. Townsley.		
1.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m.	Surgical Rheumatism and Arthritis	Mr.G. Taunton. Dr. B. Niall. Dr. G.O.S.Reid.		
Gravesend and North Kent Hospital.				
Mondays.				
11.00 a.m. 11.30 a.m.	Traumatic Clinic Ear, Nose and Throat.	Mr. M. Landau. Mr. C.G.E.Plumstead.		
Tuesdays.				
9.30 a.m.	Dental. Surgical Out-patients and	Mr. F.T. Wilkinson.		
2.30 p.m.	Varicose Veins. Ante-natal	Mr. K.W.D.Hartley. Mr. F.S.Horrocks.		
	Gynaecological	Mr. F.S.Horrocks.		
Wednesdays.				
9.30 a.m.	Fracture Clinic	Mr. M. Landau.		
1.00 p.m.	C.O.2 K.C.C. Chest Clinic.	Dr. H.W.McGorry.		
3.00 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. S.W.Hardwick.		
Thursdays.				
9.00 a.m.	Ophthalmic	Mr. W.F.Heath.		
10.30 a.m. 12 noon.	Orthopaedic Electro-medical	Mr. J.S.Batchelor. Mr. K.W.D.Hartley.		
Fridays.				
8.30 a.m.	Dental	Mr. A.L.Wright.		
9.30 a.m.	Frocture Clinic	Mr. M. Landau.		
Saturdays.				
11.00 a.m.	Medical Out-patients.	Dr. J. Crawford.		

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